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What's new | in Seattle

The newest entry in the city's boutique hotel boom is about to come online: the artful, and art-filled, **Hotel Max** (www.hotelmaxseattle.com, 1-866-833-6299; \$119 to \$190). It's the latest project by the Portland-based Aspen Hotel Group and takes over the old Vance Hotel space, at Seventh Avenue and Stewart. Each room's door features a huge photo blowup; the rooms all have modern Northwest art and the color scheme is a knockout.

The room renovation is complete, but work on the lobby, restaurant, hallways and elevators continues. So you may have to dawdle a bit to get to your room, but once you're there, you'll find a spiffy flat-screen TV, a really comfy bed and luxe toiletries. The official opening will be Oct. 15.